

.....PLAYS AT THE THEATRES THIS WEEK.....

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.
Aborn English Grand Opera Company—Monday night, "The Tales of Hoffman"; Tuesday night, "Lucia di Lammermoor"; Wednesday matinee, "Il Trovatore"; Wednesday night, "Lohengrin"; Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights and Saturday matinee, Viola Allen, in "The Daughter of Heaven."

BIJOU THEATRE.
"The Newlyweds" all the week, matinee Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

COLONIAL THEATRE.
Vaudeville.

EMPIRE THEATRE.
Miniature Musical Comedy.

THE LITTLE THEATRE.
Pictures.

CITY AUDITORIUM.
Thursday night, Richmond Philharmonic Orchestra.

Aborn Opera Company.

Up to three years ago the Aborn English Grand Opera Company had been appearing for long runs in a half-dozen of the largest cities only, and the interest in grand opera in English has grown to such proportions that they now have as many as six big companies of 100 members each located simultaneously in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington and Chicago every spring and fall. During the regular theatrical season the most successful members of these six aggregations are centralized in the one Aborn English Grand Opera Company, which makes a limited tour of other cities. This noted organization made a few visits to cities of lesser rank for one, two or three-night engagements, mainly by way of experiment, and in these shorter engagements found as large

Carlo Niccolini, conductor, and others. Most of these artists were members of the same company last season, and their talents are well known to opera-goers. The new members added this season are Ivy Scott, the noted Australian soprano, who appeared in the title role of Puccini's "The Girl of the Golden West," under Henry W. Savage's direction; Eugene Battain, who was one of the stars of Oscar Hammerstein's opera company organization, and Jayne Herbert, a contralto who has been featured in other Aborn opera companies. A large chorus and orchestra and four carloads of scenery, costumes and effects are carried with this organization.

"The Daughter of Heaven," with Viola Allen, which opens at the Academy on Thursday and continuing through Saturday, with Saturday matinee, marks the climax in American stagecraft. This great Chinese love story, written by Pierre Loti and Judith Gautier, was the admiration and despair of theatrical managers because in spite of its great beauties it demanded a production on a scale never before attempted. The Liebler Company, however, following its production of "The Garden of Allah," was signaling for new scenic worlds to conquer, and eagerly availed itself of the opportunity presented by the Loti-Gautier drama.

Although a fantasy, the play is prophetic of recent occurrences in China and shows the poet's keen insight into the hidden thought of the Chinese, which the revolution revealed. Photographs taken in China by a representative of the Liebler Company and minute descriptions of court ceremonials

part of the play were so great that at one time it was thought advisable to have the scene rewritten. Noted chemists in every university in the country were asked to furnish material which would give the effect of flames without endangering the audience. At length a device was invented, which has in it no fire and gives no heat, and yet simulates leaping flames to perfection.

Special music for the play was selected from the Chinese by Judith Gautier. As Chinese music is almost unintelligible to foreign ears on account of its singular system of notation, it was occidentalized by a noted French musician.

The play, which comes direct from a successful run in New York at the Century Theatre, will be presented by a notable company, headed by Viola Allen, who plays the part of the Empress of the Mings. Ian MacLaren is the Manchu Emperor, and Norris Millington, a remarkable child actor, is the Son of Spring, the boy Emperor of the Mings. Doris Bentley introduces the sacred dance of the lotus, never before seen on the American stage. Others in the cast are Lee Baker, as Prince Fidelity; Claude Brooks, as Prince Darling Flight; Clarence Heritage, as Profound Sagacity; Miss Ruth Rose and Miss Lulu Young, as maids of honor. In all, 200 people, including a number of native Chinese, appear on the stage as courtiers, soldiers, gardeners and in the many other parts which make up this great epic of modern China.

"The Newlyweds and Their Baby," "The Newlyweds and Their Baby" is offered at the Bijou this week for the first time at popular prices. The company, production and the other features have been maintained above the popular price standards, according to the criticisms from other cities. The Nashville Banner said:

"The Newlyweds and Their Baby," the current attraction at the Bijou, minus the usual label of 'hit,' did make a hit with the audience last night. The performance in out of the beaten track has something of the innovation, and, therefore, is quite refreshing.

"It's a show with no one star part. It gives an opportunity to several of the cast to shine particularly well, and shine they did. Of course, as naturally to be expected, Harold West, the diminutive comedian, as 'Snookums,' and another role of 'Mr. Knot Much,' was the cynosure of all eyes, and his work was very clever. Indeed, as he carried out his lines, sang and danced the role and got all the comedy that is possible in the play. He made up as the baby was rather a bit of surprise, so complete was it.

"Countess Olga von Hatzfeldt, as Mrs. Newlywed, carried out faithfully the famous conception and handled her lines in a graceful manner. The largest bundle of comedy and a large mead of applause was in the hands of Danny Murphy, however, as Adolph, a waiter. If this young fellow has any bones he keeps it a dark secret, for he gyrated about the stage with an abandon which would have floored the majority of people, and his specialty of imitating an ice skater on a wooden floor was something new—under the Nashville sun, anyway. Added to this, his mannerisms and voice placed him in high favor. Miss Lois Hall, as Mrs. Newlywed's sister, had not so much to do, but has an excellent singing voice, which she used to advantage. Miss Bessie Calla, as 'Snookums's' nurse, was given a better opportunity and made good with her comedy and singing. Edwin Stanley, as Mr. Newlywed; James Orlamond, as the proprietor of incubators; Howard Wall, as the family physician, aided greatly in carrying out the plot, which consisted in the main of losing 'Snookums' in the first act and finding him in the second. While he had decidedly a 'thinking part,' W. F. Bachelor, as the bear, figured uproariously once and awhile.

"Back to little West. He is the cleverest child impersonator that has ever been seen here and simulates the babyish voice immensely. It's a great show for the little folks, and grown-ups as well."

Amusements

Mikado

Given by the Girls' Auxiliary of The Belle Bryan Day Nursery.

Academy, April 1-2-3

Tickets on sale week of March 24 at The Corley Co.; also at the Academy on March 31.

Buy your tickets early, as there is a big demand for seats.

ORPHEUM

(Formerly Lubin)
Now closed—Being Remodeled—Decorated.

Will Open Monday, March 31st.

Under New Management.

As your largest exclusive photograph and motion picture house, catering especially to ladies and children. Everything new.

The Little Theatre

TO-MORROW

Based on An Historic Event.

THE WIVES OF JAMESTOWN

A Story of Love and Adventure

TUESDAY

Mr. Harry Glass, Master Forest

Violinist, Cubbon, Boy Soprano.

Herbert Rees, Organist.



VIOLA ALLEN, in "The Daughter of Heaven," at the Academy Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Colonial will mark the first offering of the sketch in the popular price vaudeville field, its immense success in the highest price vaudeville houses having insured its continued engagements for some years back. The sketch is said to be an almost perfect development of a highly original and amusing story that would easily lend itself to an offering of one of the most enjoyable farce comedy successes.

Low Wells, one of the best known



HAROLD WEST, as Snookums, in "The Newlyweds and Their Baby," at the Bijou this week, opening Easter Monday matinee.

and liked of comedy monologists in vaudeville, as well as being with but few peers in his accomplishments as a saxophone player, will provide another of the features. With an original and bright monologue artistically delivered, he is also able to charm with his saxophone playing, on which he reproduces the raggiest of melodies all the way up to the most colorful of classical compositions.

Frank Rutlin's monkeys, called the smartest of simian performers, will add a feature instructive to the elder folk, while highly amusing to the



JAYNE HERBERT, Contralto, Aborn English Grand Opera Company.

Amusements

ACADEMY—Mon., Tues., Wed. Matinee Wednesday

Second Annual Appearance Here of the Famous

ABORN ENGLISH GRAND OPERA COMPANY

Presenting

Monday Night—"THE TALES OF HOFFMAN"
Tuesday Night—"LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR"
Wednesday Matinee—"IL TROVATORE"
Wednesday Night—"LOHENGREN."

Double Cast of Principal Artists. Powerful Chorus. Selected Orchestra. 100 Singers and Musicians in the Ensemble. Magnificent Equipment of Scenery, Costumes and Effects.

PRICES—Matinee: \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c, 50c. Night: \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c and 50c.

Academy---Thurs., Fri., Sat. WITH MATINEE ON SATURDAY.

The Companion Pageant-Drama to "The Garden of Allah" and "Joseph and His Brethren."

The Liebler Co.'s \$100,000 Production of the Wondrous Spectacle-Play of Modern China.

"The Daughter of Heaven"

By PIERRE LOTI and JUDITH GAUTIER.

VIOLA ALLEN

and New York Century Theatre cast and company of more than 200, including native Chinese, Koreans and Japanese.

Prices: Evenings, \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c and 50c. Matinee, \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c, 50c, 25c.

Monday and All Week BIJOU Matinees Tues. Thurs. and Sat.

SPECIAL MATINEE EASTER MONDAY.

ENGAGEMENT EXTRAORDINARY.

LEFFLER-BRATTON CO. PRESENT

The Greatest of All Cartoon Plays, The

NEWLYWEDS AND THEIR BABY

16 SONG HITS

A Company of Joy Promoters and Song Dispensers.

ers Who Have Broken All Musical Records.

50 1-2 PEOPLE

FIRST TIME SOUTH—A \$1.50 SHOW AT POPULAR PRICES.

WEEK OF MARCH 31st—Billy B. Van, in "A LUCKY HOODOO."

COLONIAL

EASTER WEEK BILL

Robert Henry Hodge

In the greatest comedy sketch known to vaudeville. "BILL BLITHERS, BACHELOR." Five People. Special Scenery.

MATINEE DAILY AT 3 P. M.

Joe Isabelle Coffman & Corroll

"The Mulatto and the Coon."

NIGHT SHOWS 7:15 AND 9 P. M.

Lew Wells

Master Monologist and King of Saxophonists.

5c—AT THE MATINEE—10c.

Adair & Wyant

Classy Singing Specialists.

10c—AT NIGHT—20c.

Frank Raffins' Monkeys

Smartest of Simian Performers. Instructive and Funny.

EASTER MONDAY MATINEE. Regular Night Prices Prevail.

EMPIRE

EASTER WEEK BILL

One Tabloid Amongst the Many

"THE SEMINARY GIRL"

With KNUTE BRICKSON. One of the Most Famous Comedians on the American Stage in the Leading Role.

MATINEE DAILY AT 3 P. M.

Youthful, Pretty and Singing Chorus Girls

Extraordinary Scenic Equipment. Extravagantly Beautiful Costumes and Novel and Bewildering Electric Effects in Chorus and Ensemble.

EACH NIGHT 7:30 AND 9 P. M.

A Splendidly Selected Company

To Offer This Bright Musical Comedy, With Its Tinkling Tunes, Pleasing Pattern Songs, Bright Lyrics and Witty Dialogue. Watch for "DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?"

SATURDAY MATINEES 2 AND 3:30 P. M.

10c—PRICES—20c.

Night Prices Will Prevail at the Easter Monday Matinee.



VIOLA ALLEN, as the Ming Empress, in "The Daughter of Heaven," at the Academy on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

patronage as in their long visits to cities of first importance. Consequently they are making return trips to the more fruitful points on their itinerary of the last three seasons and are adding a few other cities to their circuit. Hence their coming engagement at the Academy of Music for four performances, March 24, 25 and 26, when they will present "The Tales of Hoffman" Monday night, "Lucia di Lammermoor" Tuesday night, "Il Trovatore" at the Wednesday matinee, and "Lohengrin" Wednesday night.

Each of the principal artists in the Aborn forces appears at only four of the eight performances of each week, so two duplicate casts are maintained in accordance with expectations of grand opera music. This double cast includes Ivy Scott, Edith Helena and Jane Abercrombie, prima donna sopranos; Eugene Battain and Leonid Samoiloff, tenors; Jayne Herbert and Hattie Belle Ladd, contraltos; Morton Adkins, Harry Lucistone and Louis Kreidler, baritone; William Schmitt and George Shields, basses; Philip Peim, buffalo.

furnished by a Chinese princess who was first lady in waiting to the late Empress Dowager, were closely followed in staging the play. Pierre Loti himself came over to assist in the production.

The play is built around the love of a Manchu Emperor and a Ming Empress. It is an Eastern version of the story of "Romeo and Juliet." The course of their love, though deep, is far from smooth, for centuries of conflict between their opposing dynasties lie between them. The fantasy moves swiftly from one sumptuous picture to another. Court garden, and battle-field follow one another in quick succession. The sights of China are presented as only travelers in that far distant land have seen them.

It is safe to say that in no other production ever seen in this city has so rich a wealth of color been spread before the eye. A feature of the performance is a fire effect, which is being shown for the first time. The difficulties in presenting this particu-



JANET SPENCER, who will sing with the Wednesday Club at the coming May Festival.